

Docket No. AUS9-2000-0555-US1

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROCESSING ELECTRONIC RECORDS  
FOR PHYSICAL TRANSACTIONS**

5 A method and apparatus for processing transactions.  
In particular, the mechanism of the present invention is  
used for processing information for physical  
10 transactions. A data structure is received at a customer  
data processing system for a physical transaction entered  
into by the customer. This information is extracted and  
used to update records or other information in the  
customer data processing system. Further, a second data  
15 structure is sent to a supplier of an item used in the  
physical transaction. This data structure is used by the  
supplier to update information maintained by the supplier  
about the item. After updating the information, the  
information is analyzed to generate statistics about  
20 physical transactions involving the item.